

**Department of Public Works and Transportation**

***DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES***



*People stopped by the Recyclemobile at the Montgomery County Fair to get information on recycling.*

***MONTHLY REPORT***

***AUGUST 2000***



*Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper*

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## **OVERVIEW**

### **Tonnage at a Glance**

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, during the fiscal years to date (FY Total), and during the current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2000 began July 1, 1999.)

<b>FACILITY</b>	<b>Aug FY 01</b>	<b>FY 01 Total</b>	<b>Aug FY 00</b>	<b>Aug FY 99</b>
Materials Recycling Facility <sup>(1)</sup>	6,487 Tons	12,076 Tons	4,699 Tons	4,409 Tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility <sup>(4)</sup>	14,152 Tons	26,799 Tons	12,309 Tons	16,818 Tons
American Ash Recycling <sup>(2)</sup>	3,001 Tons	5,731 Tons	3,342 Tons	N/A
Resource Recovery Facility <sup>(3)</sup>	42,977 Tons	92,629 Tons	39,345 Tons	50,653 Tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	4,291 Tons	7,794 Tons	1,645 Tons	3,434 Tons

<sup>(1)</sup>For FY00, MRF tons reported are outgoing. For previous years, incoming was reported.

<sup>(2)</sup>Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

<sup>(3)</sup>RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here. For FY00, these tonnages are preliminary, with adjustments made in the December and June monthly reports.

<sup>(4)</sup>This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled at Clean Rock or other locations.

### **Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation**

Reviewed monthly tonnage reporting of County Facilities for internal consistency. Received all 6-month hauler reports due, field-audited 89% of hauler-reported tonnage, and entered all data into Access database. Cross-checked recycling Processor Reports and screened out tons already reported by haulers. Reviewed additional information from consultants on both waste generation studies ongoing—total County waste generation and the nonresidential waste generation rates studies. Began drafting FY00 System-Wide Waste Flows Analysis and Recycling Report. Trained DSWS phone operators to screen/handle seasonal load of calls from ratepayer about solid waste charges. Handled 161 screened calls requiring senior staff follow-up. Finalized reserve

fund requirement calculations. Reported new fixed asset to Finance and adjusted DSWS inventory. Worked on rate stabilization subroutines in rate model. Met with vendor of a variable rate technology. Drafted Scope of Work and procurement documents for study of automated and semi-automated collection. Continued variable rate analyses and drafted additional report sections. Conducted Variable Rate Feasibility Task Force Meeting. Prepared Position Descriptions and advertisements for two new positions.

## **CITIZEN COMMITTEES**

**Facilities Implementation Group (FIG)** – FIG meeting was held on August 22, 2000. SCS Engineers received comments from members on the transportation presentation. Without a quorum, no voting occurred on agenda issues.

The next FIG meeting will be on October 17 at 7:30 p.m. Before the meeting, there will be a tour of the Chiswell Farm at 6:30 p.m.

**Solid Waste Advisory Committee** – SWAC met Tuesday, August 1, with 10 SWAC members in attendance. County staff briefed the committee on Out-of-County Haul, Developed Landfills (Gude, Oaks) and Satellite Drop-off sites.

**Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission** – The Commission held its summer quarterly meeting on August 22. The major focuses of the meeting were updates on landfill closure at the Oaks and from Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning staff regarding plans for the final use of the landfill.

## **COLLECTIONS**

**Refuse** – Refuse collections went as scheduled with no disruptions to service.

**Recycling** – Mixed Paper recycling started in Areas 1 and 11, the Bethesda and Damascus areas, completing the entire county of 197,656 homes. We also closed down the Mixed Paper drop-offs, a program that collected 274,064 pounds of paper since January.

**Contractor Performance** – There were 14 complaints not resolved by the contractors. The County corrected all 14 issues and assessed the appropriate fines. The number of complaints received in August totaled 828. This represents a 62.4% increase from August 1999, which had 510 complaints. Staff met with each contractor concerning the number of complaints. Each contractor has had serious difficulties keeping and hiring truck drivers in the current labor market. This has led to increased errors in collection.

**Enforcement Actions** – In August, 28 citations were issued in the amount of \$17,750.00 for violations of County Solid Waste Laws: 7 citations for not being a licensed company (\$3,750.00), 4 citations for not having a valid collectors tag attached (\$2,250.00), 4 citations for collection before 7 a.m. (\$2,500.00), 1 for improperly stored and/or permitted solid waste to accumulate (\$500.00). and 11 citations for dumping on property of another without consent (\$8,750.00). There were a total of 65 Notice of Violations (NOVs) issued: 6 NOVs for leaking containers, 42 NOVs for no tarps, 6 NOVs for dumping on property of another without consent, 6 NOVs for improperly stored and/or permitted solid waste to accumulate, and 1 NOV for collecting before 7 a.m.

**Customer Service** – There were 9,356 incoming calls with 55 follow-up calls as a quality control check. Also, 3,076 recycle bins were delivered.

**Volunteer Activities** – The Master Recycler/Composter Program Volunteers contributed 354.5 hours of service and reached approximately 5,500 residents. Volunteer activities included three mixed paper drop-offs, 2 computer drop-offs, 2 Household Hazardous Waste collections and 9 days at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair.

## **WASTE MINIMIZATION**

**Drop-off Programs** – Additional reusable shopping bags, to promote waste reduction, have been ordered.

**Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities** – Grasscycling/Lawn Care brochure/pamphlet completed; contractor now working to finish design and layout. Composting artwork contract finalized; new composting ads, transit materials, and a supporting brochure are forthcoming.

Display ads for Grasscycling and Compost Bins continue to run in the Gazette and Journal Newspapers.

Environmental gardening column (Green Man) with Gazette Newspapers continues with upcoming feature: "Honey, I Shrunk the Lawn!"

## **HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS**

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection** – Thirty-six citizens who could not attend the next scheduled event came to the Transfer Station to drop off household hazardous waste in August. HHW events were held at the Transfer Station and in Silver Spring. There were 806 and 532 participants, respectively. The Silver Spring total was a record for that site.

**Small Quantity Generator (Ecowise) Program** – One Ecowise event was held in August. Twelve companies attended.

## **AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS**

**Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEM Tracking of RRF Operations** - In August, the Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEM) indicated that units 1 and 3 were operating continuously until August 8. Unit 2 was brought online at 2 p.m. on August 8 for handling increased waste received. All three units were operating until August 11 when unit 2 was brought offline at about 11 p.m. Thereafter, units 1 and 3 continued to operate until the end of the month. There were no equipment malfunctions in August that affected unit operations or stack emissions.

No "Code Red" days were forecast in August.

The set of ten CEM CDROMS was updated to include CEM data up to July 31, 2000. Copies of the CDROM are placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to DSWS staff and citizen committees, including SWAC and FIG. A new set of ten CDROMS containing stack emissions data from 15 stack tests is updated. These new CDs will be distributed to the citizen committees in the first week of September.

**Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology** – In August, the Leachate Thermal Treatment System (LTTS) operated for 20 days, evaporating, on the average, eight gallons per minute. BENTECH submitted additional information on the firm's proposal to implement the electrical component of the facility. The new information included a copy of the contract between BENTECH and Delaware Solid Waste Authority. Copies of these documents will be submitted for review by NEA's consultant.

**Yard Trim Composting Facility: Consent Agreement Evaluation** – In August, ENSR submitted the draft report for the water quality-sampling program that was concluded in June. DSWS and MES reviewed the report and copies of the report were distributed to the Facilities Implementation Group (FIG) at their August 22 meeting. After FIG's review, the report will be finalized and submitted to the Maryland Department of Environment in September.

**Facilities Implementation Group (FIG) Air Quality Subcommittee** – Abby Lindstrom, from the subcommittee, reported at FIG's August 22 that the committee reviewed the RRF Air Quality Permit renewal application and had no comments. Ogden will submit the application to MDE in September.

Electronic files of stack test data were received from ENTROPY and TESTAR. ENSR is currently reviewing the data. Clean Air Engineering (CAE) has indicated that the firm will be able to provide the data by the end of September. After receiving the data from

CAE, ENSR will develop emission factors for the update of the RRF Health Risk Assessment. This information will be submitted to the committee for review.

**Contractual Work** – ENSR is currently working on the Epidemiological Study. The firm has indicated that a draft report on this topic would be made available to the County by November 2000.

## **RECYCLING**

**Public Outreach** – A survey was completed in August to assess the effectiveness of the Division's outreach on recycling. Responses and data are now being analyzed. In August, the County completed implementation of the curbside mixed paper recycling program. Mixed paper is now available to all single family homes and townhouses where the County collects recyclables. Also, DSWS has been working closely with the County's Division of Facilities and Services, Montgomery County Public Schools, several property management companies, and others to improve recycling awareness and activity.

The SORRT business recycling awareness campaign continues. Response has been strong and calls result from the campaign. Also, staff completed setting up model recycling programs for MCPS. The models are set up at: 850 Hungerford Drive (MCPS Headquarters), Forest Oak Middle School and at Ronald McNair Elementary School. The fourth model, at Blair High School, will be completed shortly.

Some members of DSWS staff volunteered their time at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. Volunteers and staff answered questions about recycling, composting and other related topics and distributed over 1560 blue bins.

The web site address for the County's recycling program is [www.MCRecycles.org](http://www.MCRecycles.org). Other related web site addresses for specific County recycling programs are: [www.SORRT.org](http://www.SORRT.org) and [www.TRRAC.org](http://www.TRRAC.org). Improvements and additions to these sites are being made and updates will be provided on a continual basis.

**Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction** – Staff continued to deliver customized service to the business sector. Staff participated in several community events. In an effort to uncover under reporting of recycling, an annual report request was sent to all businesses with 50 to 100 employees. We found additional unreported materials. Staff provided additional training for the Division of Facilities and Services' Recycling Coordinators who missed the earlier training sessions. Staff has planned and scheduled cluster meetings for MCPS's Recycling Coordinators for the months of September and October. In an effort to ensure that every coordinator is aware of their recycling program's requirements, we have planned a very informative PowerPoint presentation and training program. In addition, we have included a question and answer session to address the Recycling Coordinators' concerns. Staff has also started

working with the private schools. We mailed out notices to all of the private schools and have already received many requests for information and assistance.

**MCPS Recycling Activities** – MCPS recycled 10% of its waste stream during the month of August.

**Multi-Family Recycling** – Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs, and work with property managers and residents to provide assistance and support. Staff continued to assist properties that were not in compliance with the County's regulation. The Division also continued to solicit properties to participate in the bin effectiveness study. Staff participated during the National "Night Out Against Crime" on August 1 at The Manor, Northwest Park Apartments and Twin Towers. Staff also participated at Country Place Apartments' pool party where recycling questions were answered and promotional items were given out. Annual reports were mailed to properties during August and are to be returned by September 30. A campaign to increase awareness of the T.R.R.A.C. (Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums) Program is under development, and is set to begin in September.

**Mixed Paper Recycling** – The follow-up telephone contact with residents approximately two weeks after their new service began continued. This contact was designed to be a short, friendly phone call to ask people about their experience with the new mixed paper recycling program, and to provide assistance and answers. Response from residents continued to be overwhelmingly positive. Since mixed paper is now collected in all areas, the mixed paper drop-off sites have been phased out.

## **PILOT PROGRAMS**

**Tubgrinding Pilot** – Currently, there are about 603 yards of processed screened reject materials to be marketed. In August, 470 yards of screened reject materials was produced, bringing the total to be processed to 13,570 yards (4,992 tons).

Tubgrinding of the material began on August 22, 2000, and by the end of August, 3,200 yards have been processed with 10,000 yards to be processed.

**Ash Recycling Pilot** – The Task Order to assess and renovate the Chiswell Farm was developed and issued with a response date of September 15. Mowing continued as needed.

## **FACILITY ACTIVITIES**

**Resource Recovery Facility** – The Facility primarily operated with two units throughout the month. Unit load was managed near 100 percent. No boiler or turbine outages were experienced during the month.



On August 8, PEPCO declared Maximum Generation alert, and unit 2 was brought online. Additional alerts were called during a four-day period, but no MaxGen Emergencies were called. Unit 2 was removed from service on August 11.

On August 6, PEPCO declared Minimum Generation status, and the Facility lowered its output accordingly. Approximately 45 Megawatt hours were lost during the period.

Four hundred and sixty tons of yard trim material was rail hauled to the Compost Facility.

Approximately 2,943 tons of ash was transported for recycling.

There were no reportable air or water quality excursions. The following reports were submitted:

- July 2000 Water Supply report to Maryland Department of the Environment.
- Independent Laboratory drinking water monitoring results were submitted to MDE.
- Submitted to MDE and NEA renewal application for air quality permit to operate.
- Submitted semiannual air emissions report to MDE and EPA.
- Air emission data CDROMS were updated.

Two MDE inspectors were present on August 15, one from Air Management to observe gas audits and one from Solid Waste to inspect the Facility.

On August 22 one MDE inspector from Water Management visited the Facility.

Ogden's regional environmental engineer reviewed operations data.

The County's DSWS issued 8 citations at the Facility and 3 citations at the Transfer Station, all for related problems with leaking containers.

Tours were conducted on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Approximately 15 representatives from Taiwan and Germany toured the Facility.

**Materials Recovery Facility** – Approximately 1,592 tons of commingled material and 4,895 tons of mixed paper were shipped out after processing.

A request for proposals to update information displays at the Facility was issued. Bids were received for selected equipment. A pre-bid conference was held associated with the replacement of processing equipment.

**Oaks Landfill** – The Phase II closure construction, which consisted of a 65-acre cap, storm water control structures, road improvements and tree planting is complete, except for punch list items and sediment pond cleanout.

Cherry Hill Construction, the contractor for the Phase I closure construction (about 68 acres on the western side of the landfill) is placing subbase and liner bedding layer for the approximately 25 acres that remain to be capped. Cherry Hill is also continuing work on several drainage structures. Construction is approximately 65% complete.

The gas migration problem on the north side of the landfill has been largely mitigated through the five extraction wells installed to address this problem. The situation continues to be closely monitored due to the persistent presence of methane in one of the wells.

**Transfer Station** – During August, Ogden Martin shipped via rail 53,031 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the Resource Recovery Facility, 12,030 tons more than shipped in August 1999.

Bagging equipment was dismantled and shipped to the Dickerson Compost Facility.

Ogden Martin stepped up a program to inspect and repair intermodal waste containers in response to the County's concerns associated with leakage.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

The remaining recycling boxes used at the Public Unloading Facility were repaired, scraped, and painted.

A new task order to update Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans for the Transfer Station and other solid waste facilities was awarded.

A section of the rail was replaced on the spur leading into the rail yard.

The contractor for the Nonprocessable Waste facility completed the work, except for punch list items, making the facility available for use starting in September.

Recaulking of the concrete panels on the buildings continues.

NIH conducted a sampling program on site to evaluate their recycling program.

Atlantic Builders Group, Inc. continued work on the future recycling bays and the new rail yard access road and started work on the scrap metal drop-off area and site trailer.

Additional switch gear equipment for the standby generator was delivered.

Ogden started work on a modification to the area behind the feed chute to compactor #3 that will consist of steel plates to prevent waste from spilling behind it.

**Site 2 Landfill Properties** – The Task Order to assess and renovate the Chiswell Farm was developed and issued with a response date of September 15. Mowing continued as needed.

**Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan** – On the agenda of the next FIG meeting will be a discussion of a berm construction between the Compost Facility and the Gothic Barn called for by the Plan.

**Yard Trim Compost Facility** – Four thousand two hundred and ninety one (4,291) tons of grass and no leaves were received at Dickerson for composting. Three thousand six hundred and thirty four (3,634) cubic yards of Leafgro were sold in bulk.

**Bagging Operation** - In August, 56,650 bags of Leafgro were produced at the Compost Facility and 8,450 bags were shipped to distributors. At the Transfer Station, 6,050 bags of Leafgro were shipped to distributors.

**Linden Farm Renovations** – The project has been completed. Under the signed bagging agreement, the County is to renovate the Feed Barn and Bank Barn by June 2001. The County is in the process of receiving quotes from contractors.

Phase I of the plantings to screen the Compost Facility from the Linden Farm is complete. C & C Farms has designed Phase II of the plantings to be done this fall.

#### **Out-of-County Haul**

**Brunswick County, Virginia** – In August, about 9,884 tons of ash residue and 4,268 tons of nonprocessible waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, VA. There were 324 tons of dirt, rock and wood recycled at Clean Rock in Hagerstown, MD. The reduction in rubble recycling is due to a tightening of acceptance guidelines by Clean Rock. Previously, asphalt/dirt and concrete/dirt mixtures were acceptable. Clean Rock now will only accept clean loads of concrete, brick and block; asphalt; dirt; and limited dirt/rock mixtures. In addition, Clean Rock will no longer accept any wood, this puts an end to a pilot firewood project. The County is looking for other opportunities to manage these materials.

**York, Pennsylvania** – In August, 3,001 tons of ash residue (back hauled by rail from the RRF) were shipped from the Transfer Station to American Ash Recycling in York, PA to be recycled into aggregate.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Important Telephone Numbers**

General information on solid waste- 240/777-6400

Customer Service- 240/777-6410

Transfer Station- 301/840-2370

Materials Recovery Facility- 301/417-1447- Maryland Environmental Service

Resource Recovery Facility- 301/349-5685 County Office  
301/916-3031 Ogden Martin Systems of Montgomery

Yard Trim Compost Facility- 301/428-8185

Internet for DSWS - [www.MCRecycles.org](http://www.MCRecycles.org)

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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## SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

<i><b>TOPIC OR FACILITY</b></i>	
Current Recycling Rate in Montgomery County	36%
Recycling Goal by 2000	50%
New Recycling Programs Scheduled for FY 01	Countywide completion in August 2000 of Residential Mixed Paper Collection
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 tpd on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations Limited to Receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY00 tons received- 58,602
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	82,599
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	195,405
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

## ***GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS***

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CEM	Continuous Emissions Monitoring
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
mg/l	milligrams per liter
MNCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility